

# SCS SB 447 -- BASIC CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES FUND

This bill creates the Basic Civil Legal Services Fund. The fund will increase the public money available for civil legal services for low-income persons, as defined by the federal Legal Services Corporation Income Eligibility Guidelines. To fund the program, a \$20 fee will be assessed upon the filing of every civil or criminal proceeding in appellate courts; a \$10 fee in circuit courts; and an \$8 fee in associate circuit courts. The fee will not apply in traffic violation cases, except alcohol-related offenses. The Missouri Supreme Court or its designee will administer the fund and will report to the legislature every year on the moneys collected and disbursed.

The provisions of the bill expire on December 31, 2007.